

60. *PODICEPS DOMINICUS* (L.), Spix, Av. Bras. ii. pl. 101 ;
Max. Beitr. iv. p. 835 ; Gosse, B. Jamaica, p. 440.

Jalapa.

This little Grebe seems to be extensively diffused over the tropical portion of the New World.

61. *PLOTUS ANHINGA* (Linn.).

Jalapa.

62. *PHALACROCORAX MEXICANUS* (Brandt.), Bp. Consp. ii.
p. 173.

Jalapa.

July 28, 1857.

Professor Busk, F.R.S., in the Chair.

The following papers were read :—

1. DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVEN NEW SHELLS FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE HON. SIR DAVID BARCLAY, OF PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS. BY LOVELL REEVE, F.L.S., F.G.S.

(Mollusca, Pls. XXXVII., XXXVIII.)

Sir David Barclay, a gentleman resident at the Mauritius, and long known to conchologists as a zealous collector of shells, having availed himself of the occasion of visiting this country to bring a few of the rarer specimens of his cabinet for comparison, I have, at his request, examined them, and selected the following as being new :—

1. *STROMBUS TAURUS* (Pl. XXXVII. fig. 3). *Strom. testa ovata, crassissima, ponderosa ; spira exserta, nodoso-tuberculata ; anfractibus transversim striatis et tenuiliratis, ultimo superne obtuse angulatis et perampliter bi-tri-tuberculato, tuberculo obliquo peramplo infra in medio ornato ; columella densissime callosa, superne fere ad apicem appresse dilatata ; apertura subcontracta, labro dense incrassato, tuberculis peramplis obtusis armato superne bidactylo, dactylo supremo elongato, curvato ; albida, aurantio-fusco variegata et sparsim vittata, columella et apertura fauce rubido-carneo tinctis.*

Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$ poll., lat. $2\frac{5}{8}$ poll.

Hab. Amirante Islands, a group of the Seychelles.

This remarkable shell, which Sir David Barclay has for some time past known as an undescribed species, and distinguished in his cabinet by the above name, is curiously intermediate in its generic

characters between *Strombus* and *Pterocera*. In detail of pattern and sculpture it resembles *S. laciniatus*, but there is a large central oblique tubercle on the back, and the tip is thickened into two very large obtuse oblong tubercles, the upper part being produced into two decided *Pterocera* claws, one of which is prolonged in a curved manner to the extent of an inch and a half. The specimen has rather the appearance of being malformed; but notwithstanding this seeming irregularity of growth, there is no doubt whatever of its being specifically distinct from any hitherto described form.

2. *CYPRÆA BARCLAYI* (Pl. XXXVIII. fig. 4). *Cypr. testa pyriformi-ovata, subumbilicata; dorso elevatiusculo, extremitatibus eleganter callosoproductis, subrostratis; basi convexa; dentibus utrinque octodecim ad novemdecim fortibus tumidiusculis; interstitiis conspicue sulcatis, profundis; dentibus exterioribus super labrum decurrentibus, medianis bifidis; nitente, alba, dorso aurantio-spadiceo undique eximie punctato et lentiginoso, extremitatibus aurantio-spadiceo tinctis.*

Long. 1 poll., lat. $\frac{5}{8}$ poll.

Hab. Island of Diego Garcia, a dependency of Mauritius (taken on a block of coral dredged up from deep water).

An exquisitely delicate species in the finest possible condition, perfectly unlike any of this favourite genus hitherto known. It is of an elegantly pyriform shape, with the extremities rather produced; the teeth on each side the aperture being especially characteristic, from their strong development and deeply grooved interstices. The painting is a delicate profusion of orange-buff dots of different degrees of tone upon a shining pearl-white ground; the extremities and teeth, the outer of which extend nearly across the base, being tinged with the orange-buff in a darker and brighter hue.

3. *PYRULA (RHIZOCHILUS) DE BURGHIE* (Pl. XXXVIII. fig. 3).

Pyr. testa pyriformi-ovata, subanguste umbilicata; spira breviscula, turrata; anfractibus superne late angulato-expansis, ad angulum squamis subamplis plano-compressis flabellatim coronatis, infra basin versus attenuatis, undique dense liratis, liris subtilissime serratis; alba, aperturæ fauce sulcata.

Long. $1\frac{3}{4}$ poll., lat. $1\frac{1}{4}$ poll.

Hab. China.

A beautifully turbinated pagoda-like shell, being coronated throughout the expanded angle of the whorls with large compressed fan-shaped scales. It is of the same peculiar typical form as the *Pyrula Mawæ*, the umbilicus being, however, much more contracted, and is believed to be an inhabitant of the same locality.

I have the pleasure of naming this very delicate and remarkable species in honour of Mrs. De Burgh, a lady, whose warm assiduity and zeal in collecting shells is equalled by her intelligent apprehension of their characters and correct estimation of their comparative rarity and beauty.

4. **TROCHUS (EUCHELE) ALABASTRUM.** *Tro. testa subdepresso-conoidea, anguste profunde umbilicata; spira exserta; sutura peculiariter profunde excavata; anfractibus deinde concavis, et fortiter tricarinatis, carinis subirregulariter undatis et exquisite serratis; calcareo-alba, carinis punctis nigris subdistantibus peculiariter notatis.*

Long. $\frac{5}{8}$ poll., lat. $\frac{5}{8}$ poll.

Hab. Island of Diego Garcia, a dependency of the Mauritius.

Of this very striking species there is a second specimen in the collection of Mr. Cuming. It is of a pure chalk-white substance, strongly spirally grooved and keeled throughout, the keels being sparsely dotted with black.

5. **MUREX BARCLAYI.** *Mur. testa trigono-ovata, canali breviuscula, recurva; spira brevi, acuminata; anfractibus transversim tenuissime serrato-liratis et striatis, longitudinaliter trivari-cosis, varicibus basin versus conspicue fimbriato-laminatis, interstitiis triseriatim tuberculatis et nodatis; rosaceo-alba, purpurascens et ferrugineo-carneo tincta et maculata.*

Long. $3\frac{1}{4}$ poll., lat. $1\frac{3}{4}$ poll.

Hab. St. Brandon Shoal, near Mauritius (thrown on shore after a hurricane).

This very beautiful species is very closely allied to a shell in Mr. Cuming's collection, which has been attributed by Mr. Sowerby, in his 'Conchological Illustrations,' to *M. trigonulus*, Lamarck. It is also as closely allied to a shell in the collection of the King of Denmark, which was figured for that species by myself in the 'Conchologia Iconica.' From both, however, it is sufficiently distinct to establish its claim to rank as a new species.

6. **CYCLOSTOMA TUBULUM.** *Cycl. testa imperforata, turbinata; spira elevatiuscula; anfractibus rotundatis, lævibus; apertura circulari; labro eleganter expanso; lutescente-alba, nigricanti-fusco multifusciata.*

Lat. $1\frac{1}{8}$ poll.

Hab. — ?

This very elegant species partakes of the characters of *C. Belairi* and *Boivini*, but is quite distinct from either of those species. There is no umbilicus and very little umbilical callosity. The bands are peculiar in extending over the expanded lip to the extreme edge.

7. **CYCLOSTOMA EUGENIÆ.** *Cycl. testa subprofunde umbilicata, subdepresso-orbiculari; spira brevi; anfractibus ad suturam leviter impressis, deinde convexis, spiraliter dense elevato-striatis, in medio acute tenuicarinatis; apertura circulari, labro (in hoc specimine) simplici; fulvescente-spadicea, infra castaneo plus minus tenue vittata.*

Lat. 1 poll.

Hab. Mauritius (found in the heights of Flacq, at the roots of a Bois-de-Natte tree).

Most nearly allied to *C. filosum*, but of lighter texture and warmer colour.

2. NOTICE OF A LARGE SPECIES OF *LINEUS*?, TAKEN ON THE COAST NEAR MONTROSE. BY DR. JOHN E. GRAY, V.P.Z.S., F.R.S. ETC.

(Annulosa, Pl. XLVIII.)

Mr. Beattie, the Secretary of the Museum of the Natural History Society of Montrose, has kindly presented to the Museum a fragment containing the head of a large marine animal which was taken off the coast near Montrose on the 18th July, 1857.

Mr. Beattie has accompanied the specimen with a figure, and the following note respecting it:—

“Length varies from 18 to 20 inches. After having been taken a few hours, it divided itself into two pieces of nearly equal length, the posterior of which divided itself into 32 different pieces, all of which seemed to me to move for a whole day; the head part, continuing to live for two days, moved about, changing its shape continually, and now and then throwing off an additional joint.”

The head portion which is in the British Museum resembles the fragment of a very large *Lineus*, with a large longitudinal mouth opening into a longitudinal cavity, which extends the whole of its length, having a central, broad, longitudinal rounded ridge extending the whole length of the dorsal surface. The sides of the body are irregularly torn.

The specimen is in far too imperfect a condition to describe, but I think that it may be provisionally named *Lineus Beattiae*, after its discoverer; and I hope that we may be favoured with a more perfect description of the animal made from a living specimen.

I may observe, that there is a large round hole in the centre of the lower part of the body, about one-fourth the entire length from the mouth, which has been mistaken by some persons for the vent; but it is evidently an artificial perforation extending entirely through the substance of the body, and piercing both surfaces of the central cavity.

3. ON A COLLECTION OF BIRDS MADE BY SIGNOR MATTEO BOTTERI IN THE VICINITY OF ORIZABA IN SOUTHERN MEXICO. BY PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.L.S. ETC.

Signor Matteo Botteri, the well-known Dalmatian botanist and traveller, has transmitted to Mr. S. Stevens a considerable collection of birds formed in the vicinity of Orizaba in Southern Mexico, where he has lately been resident in pursuit of his investigations in various branches of natural history. Having recently been engaged in studying the fine series of specimens of birds obtained by M. Sallé at